

Contents

CHAPTER I	Introduction	7
CHAPTER II	Pulmonary arterial hypertension in limited cutaneous systemic sclerosis: a distinctive vasculopathy	27
CHAPTER III	Platelet-derived growth factor receptor- β and epidermal growth factor receptor in pulmonary vasculature of systemic sclerosis-associated pulmonary arterial hypertension <i>vs.</i> idiopathic pulmonary arterial hypertension and pulmonary veno-occlusive disease	47
CHAPTER IV	Different right ventricular contractility in limited cutaneous systemic sclerosis associated pulmonary arterial hypertension and idiopathic pulmonary arterial hypertension	67
CHAPTER V	Different right ventricular filling pattern in systemic sclerosis-associated pulmonary arterial hypertension compared with idiopathic pulmonary arterial hypertension	85
CHAPTER VI	Characteristics of interstitial fibrosis and inflammatory cell infiltration in right ventricles of systemic sclerosis-associated pulmonary arterial hypertension	99
CHAPTER VII	Membrane diffusion- and capillary blood volume measurements are not useful as screening tools for pulmonary arterial hypertension in systemic sclerosis: a case-control study	117
CHAPTER VIII	Summary and aims for further research	133
CHAPTER IX	Nederlandse samenvatting	143
	Dankwoord	155
	Curriculum Vitae	161
	Publications	165